

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Southern District of Indiana

10 West Market Street Suite 2100 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3048

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(317)226-6333 TDD (317)226-5438

FAX NUMBERS: Criminal (317)226-6125 Administration (317)226-5176 Civil (317)226-5027 FLU (317) 226-6133 OCDETF (317)226-5953

CONTACT PERSON:

SUSAN W. BROOKS United States Attorney (317) 226-6333 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

HONDURAN NATIONAL CHARGED WITH ALIEN REENTRY

Press Release

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that VENTURA CACERES-DE LA CRUZ, 37, was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for Re-Entry of a Deported Alien, following an investigation by the Bureau of Customs and Immigration Enforcement.

The indictment alleges that CACERES-DE LA CRUZ, being an alien, and after having been arrested and deported from the United States to Honduras on or about May 16, 2002, at Houston, Texas, was found in the United States at Marion County, Indiana without the Attorney General of the United States having expressly given consent to the defendant's

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CACERES-DE LA CRUZ-2

reapplying for admission into the United States. CACERES-DE LA CRUZ had suffered a conviction for domestic battery as a felony from the Marion County Superior Court in August 2001, approximately 9 months prior to his deportation.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Gayle L. Helart, who is prosecuting the case for the government, CACERES-DE LA CRUZ faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 20 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. An initial hearing will be scheduled for before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis.

The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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